

Pleas, Plaints & other dem<sup>ds</sup> whatsoever as liberally, frankly, freely, fully, Lawfully and securely as if they & either of them had been naturall free born people or Subjects any Law usage or custome to the contrary notwithstanding

Lib. L. L.  
No. 1.

June 2 <sup>d</sup> 92	June the 2 <sup>d</sup> 1692
Assented to by the Counc <sup>ll</sup> Board	} The house of Assembly have assented
Signed p Ord <sup>r</sup> John Llewelin Clk.	
	Signed p Ord <sup>r</sup> Hen. Denton Clk.

An Act for Securing Creditors.

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Whereas there are Prisons in every County now built and forasmuch as they were intended for the safe keeping of Prison<sup>rs</sup> that Creditors might be secured to have their debts paid after Judgement and Execution Served and that Criminalls might be brought to condigne Punishment Be it Enacted by the King and Queens most Excel<sup>t</sup> Majesties by and with the Advice and Consent of this p<sup>r</sup>sent Generall Assembly and the Authority of the same, That every Sherriff within this Province That shall have any Prisoner committed to his Charge in any Criminall case whatsoever shall safe keep the said Prisoner untill they be delivered by due course of Law, and if any Sherriff shall suffer any such Prisoners to Escape Voluntarily or negligently shall forfeit twenty thousand pounds of Tobacco the one half thereof to their Majesties for the support of Government, the other half to be Employed in the Strengthening the Prison of the County and maintenance of poor prisoners Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid that when any person or persons are taken by the severall and respective Sherriffs of the Sev<sup>r</sup>all and respective Counties in Execution for debt or upon other mean process the s<sup>d</sup> Sev<sup>r</sup>all & respective Sherriffs shall safely keep & restrain the s<sup>d</sup> Prison<sup>rs</sup> by such means & in such Man<sup>r</sup> as Prison<sup>rs</sup> in England by the Law of England are and may be restrained and if any Sherriff shall Voluntarily or negligently suffer any such Prisoner to Escape such Sherriff shall pay the debt or damages to the Person who obtained Judgement and sued out Execution or other mean Process against the said Prisoner And if any person Imprison'd for felony or other Crime deserving death shall attempt or Endeavour to break Prison shall I<sup>m</sup>ediatly thereupon be secured by the Sherriff or Goaler in Irons and any Person so Imprisoned for felony or other Crime deserving Death as aforesaid that shall break Prison shall be Punished with Death.

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